

This Document can be made available
in alternative formats upon request

State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. 5227

04/02/2024

Authored by Wiener and Knudsen

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Finance and Policy

- 1.1 A bill for an act
- 1.2 relating to game and fish; authorizing emergency importation of minnows to ensure
- 1.3 adequate bait supply; amending Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97C.515, by
- 1.4 adding a subdivision.
- 1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:
- 1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97C.515, is amended by adding a subdivision
- 1.7 to read:
- 1.8 Subd. 6. **Emergency importation to ensure adequate bait supply.** (a) Notwithstanding
- 1.9 subdivisions 1 to 5, section 97C.211 or 97C.341, or any other provision of law, a minnow
- 1.10 dealer, minnow retailer, or holder of a private fish hatchery license may import live minnows
- 1.11 from other states for use in this state without a permit when the minnow dealer, minnow
- 1.12 retailer, or holder of a private fish hatchery is unable to procure an adequate supply of bait
- 1.13 from sources in this state. For purposes of this subdivision, a person is unable to procure
- 1.14 an adequate supply of bait from sources in this state if the person has an inadequate supply
- 1.15 to meet demand for at least one day.
- 1.16 (b) A minnow dealer, minnow retailer, or holder of a private fish hatchery license must
- 1.17 notify the commissioner within 48 hours of importing minnows under this subdivision in
- 1.18 the manner prescribed by the commissioner.
- 1.19 (c) The commissioner may not require a permit to import minnows under this subdivision
- 1.20 but may inspect any minnows imported under this subdivision and related documents to
- 1.21 determine the quantity, source, species, and health of the imported minnows.
- 1.22 (d) Section 97C.341 does not apply to minnows imported under this subdivision.